

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 975

By Fincher

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Putnam County Farm Bureau for promoting agricultural literacy through "Farm Day."

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding organizations who are dedicated to agriculture and recognize the importance of farming in our society; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County Farm Bureau is one such remarkable institution, which, in conjunction with Tennessee Tech University (TTU), recently hosted "Farm Day" as a part of the Department of Agriculture's "Ag in the Classroom" initiative to expose students to agriculture by bringing the farming experience directly to the young learners; and

WHEREAS, long recognized as the voice for agriculture in Tennessee, Putnam County Farm Bureau created "Farm Day" to promote agricultural literacy and introduce the next generation of Tennesseans to the benefits of farming; and

WHEREAS, on March 16 and 17, 2010, more than 1,000 first-graders filled TTU's Hyder-Burks Pavilion, overflowing with awe and wonder as they came to face-to-face with cows, chickens, and squeaking piglets; and

WHEREAS, the youngsters rotated through twenty-four educational stops, listening and learning to more than 100 local agricultural leaders as they shared their enthusiasm for agriculture by giving presentations on various subjects ranging from raising dairy cows and crops to using farm equipment and testing soil; and

WHEREAS, in addition to providing a fun-filled afternoon, "Farm Day" gave first-graders throughout Putnam and Jackson Counties a greater appreciation for the farming and agriculture

industry and inspired some students to pursue a rewarding career in an agriculture-related field;
and

WHEREAS, because fewer and fewer children know where their food and fibers originate, the agricultural enthusiasts of Putnam County Farm Bureau Women's Committee, led by event chairman Gwen Ray, planned and coordinated this innovative and extraordinary event;
and

WHEREAS, at a time when the segment of our population involved in agriculture continues to dwindle and agricultural literacy is on the decline, Putnam County Farm Bureau stands as one of our state's greatest assets and is most assuredly deserving of special recognition by this General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend the members and volunteers of Putnam County Farm Bureau for hosting "Farm Day," thank them for their meritorious service to Tennessee's agricultural community, and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.